

DESCRIPTION OF TRAILS

- 1. MODERATE — 1.5 miles. Begins just north of the campground and follows a ridge through the woods before dropping down in a valley, crosses two channels as it circles around the north side of Dock Lake, and returns to the campground.
- 2. MODERATE — 1 mile. Begins at the parking lot on the north shore of Bowen Lake, follows the lake shore through the woods past a burial mound and returns to the parking lot.
- 3. EASY — .5 mile. Links the campground with the beach.
- 4. MODERATE — 1 mile. Takes you past four lakes, wooded areas, swamps and open fields.
- 5. EASY — 1.3 miles. Follows the shore around Sand Lake through willows and open areas.
- 6. MODERATE — 2.5 miles. Provides access to Long Lake by way of Trail 1 through open field, locust and pine trees. It then follows the south-west shore of Long Lake through creek bottoms and woods.
- 7. EASY — 1.8 miles. Begins at the Sand Lake fishing pier, follows along the channel to Bowen Lake, then turns west to connect with Weber Lake and return along the channel to Sand Lake. It winds through lowlands, along two different channels, and through an upland forest.
- 8. EASY — .5 mile. A self-guiding nature trail. It begins at the interpretive center, circles Finster Lake crossing a glacial kame, and returns to the interpretive center.

STAY ON MARKED TRAILS!

Please let wild animals remain wild. Feeding deer is prohibited. Feeding of wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to park visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll car windows up tightly.

ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

BOATS & CANOES — Boats, canoes and paddleboats are rented by the hour or day. Life jackets are also available. Only electric trolling motors are allowed.

CAMPING — Campground equipped with flush toilets, hot water and showers. Occupancy is limited to two weeks. Most sites will accommodate trailers. Electricity is available as are dump stations. A rally campground and youth tent area are also available. Camping reservations are available through the Central Reservation System.

FAMILY CABINS — Family cabins may be rented from April through October. Cabins are rented by the week from Saturday to Saturday during June, July and August. They may be rented by the night during April, May, September and October. Non-smoking cabins are available. Cabins are not rented to persons under the age of 21.

FISHING — Bass, bluegill and other small gamefish are common. A state fishing license, which may be purchased at the park office, is required.

GROCERIES — A small store is located in the campground.

HIKING — More than 10 miles of hiking trails are available. They are rated as easy or moderate.

INTERPRETIVE NATURALIST SERVICE — A naturalist is available through the summer months. Hikes, Junior Naturalist and Hoosier Ecologist programs, plus evening activities are offered. Program schedules are available on the website at www.IN.gov/dnr/parklake/interpretiveservices/ or ask for a schedule at the gatehouse, park office or nature center.

PICNIC AREAS — Tables, toilet facilities, playground equipment and playfields.

REFRESHMENT STAND — Soft drinks, ice cream and snacks are available at the beach refreshment stand. Operating hours are posted.

SHELTERS — Reservations for shelters are available through the Central Reservation System.

SWIMMING — There is no charge for swimming. The bathhouse and beach are open the Saturday before Memorial Day and no later than Labor Day.

TELEPHONE — Public phones are located near the campground control station and the beach.

THIS IS YOUR PARK

All visitors are expected to observe the following rules which are designed to fulfill the purpose for which state parks were established, namely, to preserve a primitive landscape in its natural condition for the use and enjoyment of the people.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Do not injure or damage any structure, rock, tree, flower, bird or wild animal within the Park. Do NOT gather limbs, brush or trees (either dead or alive) for firewood! It MUST be allowed to remain to rebuild the natural humus.
- Any firearm, BB gun, air gun, CO₂ gun, bow and arrow, or spear gun in possession in a state park must be unloaded or un-nocked and stored in a case or locked within a vehicle except when participating in an activity authorized by written permit.
- Dogs and cats must be kept on a leash no longer than six feet and attended at all times. Pets are not allowed in the family cabins or their immediate vicinity.
- There shall be no vending or advertising without permission of the Department of Natural Resources.
- Camping is permitted only in the campground. Youth groups must be under adult supervision.
- Fires shall be built only in places provided.
- Please comply with the Carry In/Carry Out trash policy in all day use areas. Overnight guests must put waste in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- Motorists will observe speed limits as posted, and park in designated areas.
- Swimming is limited to the beach at Sand Lake.
- Drinking water should be taken only from pumps, hydrants or fountains provided for that purpose. This water is tested regularly for purity.
- Report lost or found articles to the park office.
- All motorized vehicles must remain on paved roadway. Snowmobiles are prohibited.
- Use of metal detectors prohibited.
- The park is closed from 11 p.m. until 7 a.m., except to fishermen and campers at their site, and cabin guests with a receipt or key.

For a complete list of rules and regulations inquire at park office.

CENTRAL RESERVATION SYSTEMS

Reservations for all types of camping, family cabins, and shelters at state parks, reservoirs and forests can be made by going online or use the toll free number.

www.camp.IN.gov
1-866-6campIN
(1-866-622-6746)

Reservations for the Indiana State Park Inns and Inn-operated cabins can be made by going online or use the toll free number.

www.indianainns.com
1-877-lodges1
(1-877-563-4371)



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Write: Chain O'Lakes State Park
2355 E. 75 South
Albion, Indiana 46701
Call: (260) 636-2654
DNR
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
www.IN.gov/dnr

SPECIAL NOTE

Receipts from admission and service charges are used to help defray the operation and maintenance costs of the park. List of fees available in the park office.

The programs, services, facilities and activities of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are available to everyone. DNR prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to: Department of Natural Resources, Executive Office, 402 W. Washington St., Rm. W256, Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317) 232-4020.

INDIANA

CHAIN O'LAKES STATE PARK

One of the most interesting features at Chain O'Lakes State Park is its shape. It is about a mile wide and four miles long. Within its boundaries are 2,718 acres including 212 surface acres of water and more than seven miles of widely varying shoreline.

The lakes in this chain are known as kettle lakes and were formed by the last glaciers in this area approximately 10,000 years ago. The lakes were actually huge blocks of ice. Rivers of water resulting from melting ice carved the channels which connect eight of the 11 lakes in the park.

Prior to its settlement by pioneers, the area was inhabited by Miami Indians. An Indian village of about 30 bark wigwams was located on the north shore of Bowen Lake. William Bowen was one of the first settlers in this area in the 1830's. In 1840, he constructed a home on the north shore of Bowen Lake.

One of the most unique buildings in the park is the Nature Center. It is the restored Stanley Schoolhouse which was originally constructed in 1915. It is the fourth school at this location and was in use until the early 1950's.